

## **I CLAIM:**

1. A method for reducing adverse effects upon a business or a recovering business activities in the event of a disaster to or other disruption of use of facilities, systems, materials, personnel, or other aspects of or relating to the business, comprising:

(a) carrying out research regarding the business and risks of a disaster or disruption;

(b) interviewing personnel knowledgeable of one or more aspects of the business or the risks of a disaster or disruption to better understand the business and the risks;

(c) training team leaders as to what to do in the event of the disaster or disruption and how to communicate with each other and their respective team members during or after that disaster or disruption;

(d) training team members specific to their areas of responsibility;

(e) estimating time to recover or gain access to servers and applications taking into consideration effects of dependencies of one server or application on another server or application;

(f) carrying out simulated events;

(g) setting up a contingency organization that would be instituted at the time of the event;  
and

(h) planning for support services for team leaders and team members who would assist with maintaining business continuity or recovering the business.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein support services comprises daycare services.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein setting out a contingency organization comprises creating a contingency organizational chart and communicating that authority is given to the organization in the event of a disaster or disruption.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the steps is at least partially completed using a computer.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein steps (a) through (h) are carried out in order.
6. A method for reducing adverse effects upon a business or recovering business activities in an event of a disaster to or other disruption of use of facilities, systems, materials, personnel, or other aspects of or relating to the business, comprising:
  - (a) carrying out research regarding the business;
  - (b) identifying risks of a disaster or disruption to the business;
  - (c) identifying computer-related assets used in the business; and
  - (d) developing an event plan that is to be executed in the event of the disaster or disruption, wherein the plan is based specifically on the business, at least one of the identified risks, and at least one of the identified computer-related assets.
7. The method of claim 6, further comprising training team members as to their roles within the plan.
8. The method of claim 7, wherein the step of training team members comprises training team leaders as to how to communicate with each other and their respective team members during or after the disaster or disruption.

9. The method of claim 6, further comprising carrying out at least one simulated event.
10. The method of claim 9, further comprising adjusting the plan during or after carrying out the at least one simulated event.
11. The method of claim 6, further comprising setting up a contingency organization that would be instituted at the time of the event.
12. The method of claim 6, wherein the business continuity plan further comprising planning for support services for team leaders and team members who would assist with maintaining business continuity or recovering the business.
13. The method of claim 6, wherein the event plan comprises a plan to do at least one of maintaining business continuity and recovering at least one aspect of the business.
14. The method of claim 6, wherein the step of carrying out research comprises interviewing personnel knowledgeable of one or more aspects of the business or the risks of a disaster or disruption to better understand the business and the risks.
15. The method of claim 6, wherein the step of identifying computer-related assets comprises identifying software applications and servers used in the business.
16. The method of claim 6, further comprising estimating an amount of time to recover or gain access to computer-related assets.
17. The method of claim 16, wherein the estimating step comprises taking into consideration including the effects of dependencies of at least one server or application on another server or application.

18. A method for maintaining or regaining at least partial activities of a business following an event that prevents or impedes access to at least one asset used in the business, comprising:

- (a) identifying where within a facility the at least one asset is located;
- (b) creating a description of the location of the at least one asset;
- (c) developing a retrieval plan by which a retrieving entity would retrieve the at least one asset; and
- (d) developing a tracking plan by which a tracking entity that is to retrieve the at least one asset is tracked during retrieval by a tracking entity.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the step of creating a description comprises creating a diagram that shows the location of the at least one asset.

20. The method of claim 18, wherein the tracking plan comprises the retrieving entity taking the retrieved asset to a location at which it may be used or kept for storage or future use.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the tracking plan comprises providing communications between the tracking entity and the retrieving entity during retrieval.

23. The method of claim 18, wherein the retrieving and tracking entities are humans.